ism Year 1991 include creation of awareness about India as a tourist destination in key markets abroad, promotion of 46 fairs and festivals along with special events and 18 travel circuits through publicity and marketing.

(b) A total of 16, 77, 461 tourists visited India during the year 1991. The estimated amount of foreign exchange earned during the year 1991 was Rs. 2, 918 crores.

[Translation]

Fake Courier Service in Delhi

4082. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a gang running fake courier service has recently been unoarthed in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of persons arrested in this regard;

(c) whether any action taken against them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). Prima-facie involvement of one Postman and two employees of a private courier firm in such activities in the Capital has come to the notice of the Government and those persons have been arrested by the police.

(c) to (e). Action as per law has been initiated.

[English]

Regularisation of Daily Wagers in MTNL

4083. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are taking steps for the regularisation of daily wagers of the Mahanager Telephone Nigam Ltd:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of such workers who have completed a period of 240 days in continuous service?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action has already been initiated to regularise all those temporary status mazdoors who have completed 10 (Ten) years of service vide DOT letter No 260-27/91-STN dt. 3.1.1992.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a).

(d) Number of such workers are at Bombay 2340 & at New Delhi 5870.

Irrigation and Soil Erosion Projects in Assam

4084. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals for irrigation project and the erosion by the rivers received by the Union Government from the Government of Assam during the last three years;

(b) the details of the proposals approved

by the Union Government and the amount sanctioned therefor;

(c) the reasons for not approving the remaining proposals; and

(d) the time by which remaining proposals are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RECOURSES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Two major and six medium irrigation projects and proposals for 24 anti-erosion schemes including retirement were received by the Union Government from the Government of Assam during the last three years.

(b) 12 Anti-erosion projects including retirements totalling Rs. 66 crores have been cleared.

(c) The examination of 1 Anti-erosion scheme has not been completed, but all others have been sent to State Government for carrying out the modifications based upon the observations made by Central Appraising Agencies.

(d) The time by which the proposals can be cleared depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations by Central Appraising Agencies.

[*Translation*]

Licences to Manufacturing Milk Powder

4085. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued by the Government for manufacturing of milk powder; and

(b) whether the Government propose to review such licences in view of the present shortage of milk in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b). As per Press Note No. 9 of 1991, requirement of obtaining an industrial licence under IDR Act 1951 by an industrial undertaking for manufacture of milk foods including milk powder has been done away with subject to certain locational parameters. However, before delicensing, 87 units were granted industrial licences under IDR ACt for manufacture of milk foods, the kajority of which produce milk powder. The supply of liquid milk by Delhi Milk Scheme, Mother Dairy and other agencies in Delhi is reasonably adequate.

[*English*]

Gandhar Gas Power Project

4086. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA:
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government that the Gandhar Gas Based Power Project be utilised for peak load purposes and not based load;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to clear this project as a base load power station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES(SHRI